

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Notice of Inventory Completion for Human Remains and Associated Funerary Objects in the Possession of the Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d), of completion of Inventory for Native American human remains and associated funerary objects presently in the possession of the Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ.

The human remains and associated funerary objects consist of three sets of human remains and associated funerary objects which were collected by Frank Midvale from La Ciudad Ruin, a Hohokam site in Phoenix, Arizona between 1927 and 1929. Artifacts from the site, which was located on property then owned by the Museum, were transferred to the Museum for preservation as a field collection subsequent to their excavation. One set of remains (NA-SW-SD-A1-15) consists of a cremation associated with a Gila Red bowl and an unidentified potsherd. The second set (NA-SW-SD-A1-18) consists of a cremation associated with a Gila Red jar. The third set (NA-SW-SD-T-1) consists of cranial material. These

materials were originally cataloged by the Museum as Salado, but were reidentified in 1994 as Hohokam, based on the La Ciudad site provenience and reevaluation of the associated funerary objects.

In 1990, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community adopted a joint policy statement along with three other central Arizona tribes, which includes the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community, and the Tohono O'Odham Indian Nation. The policy statement asserted that these four communities claim an affiliation to ancestors defined as "Hohokam". In October 1993, the Museum supplied a summary and inventory of its holdings identified as Pima, Maricopa, Hohokam, Salado or Sinagua to the affiliated central Arizona tribes.

On April 19, 1995, a representative of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community visited the Museum for an initial consultation, during which time it was determined that the tribe would seek return of the human remains and associated funerary objects from La Ciudad Ruin as part of their annual reburial ceremony. Subsequently, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community has requested these three sets of remains and associated funerary objects in a letter dated April 20, 1995. The Museum's Board of Trustees responded positively to the request on April 26, 1995.

Inventory of the human remains and funerary objects and review of accompanying documentation from the three sets of Native American human remains listed above indicate that no known individuals were identifiable.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of the Heard Museum have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between the Native American human remains and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. All

of the objects are reasonably believed to have been placed with or near individual Native American human remains either at the time of death or later as part of a death rite or ceremony.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Ak-Chin Indian Community, Gila River Indian Community and the Tohono O'Odham Indian Nation. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with these human remains and associated funerary objects should contact Martin Sullivan, Director, The Heard Museum, 22 E. Monte Vista Road, Phoenix Arizona 85004-1480, telephone (602) 252-8840 before July 12, 1995. Repatriation of the cultural item to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community may begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: June 2, 1995

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